

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3248

ANSWERED ON:21.03.2007

ADDITIONAL INTER- CONNECTION CHARGES ON e- SEVA

Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited has raised a demand for payment of additional inter-connection charges in addition to lease line cost on e-Seva, which is a public utility service of the Government of Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Union Government has received any request from the Government of Andhra Pradesh for waiving interconnectivity charges for e-governance applications for e-Seva and other Government projects;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action taken by the Government on the request?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

- (a) Sir, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has raised bills to tune of Rs. 13 crores for Inter-connectivity charges for e-Seva Network.
- (b) BSNL has raised the bills since e-Seva is not a pure Government project but based on Public Private Partnership (PPP) model. Therefore inter-eonnection charges between networks of Govt. of Andhara pradesh and Private Sector corporate cannot be waived off.
- (c) & (e) A communication has been received by the Government from Chief Minister of Andhara pradesh requesting for waiver of interconnectivity charges for e-Governance applications in general and for e-Seva project in particular. The request has been examined by the Government and the same could not be agreed to.